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Mr. Neal Smith, Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State,
the Judiciary and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I want to express my strong support for the Department of State's efforts to strengthen its reporting and analysis capabilities and to urge your favorable consideration of the Department of State's FY 1984 Reporting and Analysis Supplemental request as well as the Reporting and Analysis positions in State's FY 1985 budget.

The overt reporting done by Foreign Service Officers is an important and integral part of the Intelligence Community's overall efforts to obtain accurate and timely intelligence and analyses. In fact, CIA's annual source surveys show State as the No. 1 source for Agency analyses over the past five fiscal years.

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The Intelligence Community believes that the Department of State is inadequately staffed to meet ongoing national security requirements for political and economic reporting. We have provided the Department with a list of countries where we feel an augmentation of political or economic staffing is needed to meet national foreign affairs information and analysis requirements. These recommendations were used in preparing the Department's FY 1984 Reporting and Analysis Supplemental.

If the Department of State does not receive an augmentation of resources to meet these national reporting and analysis needs, it may be necessary for other elements of the Intelligence Community to engage its officers in overt collection and reporting, a function that is more appropriately and efficiently performed by the Foreign Service. Apart from the misuse of specially trained personnel, substituting CIA for State reporting is more costly and increases the risk of exposure and political embarrassment.

I believe that it is in the national interest that the State Department, which provides more than half of all foreign affairs information available to the U.S. Government, have

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adequate resources to meet the ever-growing demands in this critical activity. I hope that you will take into consideration my strong support of the Department's efforts in rebuilding its reporting and analysis strength when you consider the Department of State's FY 1984 Supplemental Request and its FY 1985 budget.

Sincerely, .

William J. Casey

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cc: The Honorable Paul Laxalt -
Senate Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings
Senate Appropriations Committee

The Honorable George O'Brien
House Appropriations Committee

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